

Message

From: Gill, Sonam [Gill.Sonam@epa.gov]
Sent: 5/28/2021 6:30:36 PM
To: Chesnutt, John [Chesnutt.John@epa.gov]; Alpern, Michael [Alpern.Michael@epa.gov]; Lyons, John [Lyons.John@epa.gov]; Giarmoleo, Julia [Giarmoleo.Julia@epa.gov]; Barton, Dana [Barton.Dana@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: NOAA/EPA Joint Briefing with Sen. Feinstein Staff on Deep Ocean DDT Contamination off the Southern California Coast

Is this ready to send off?

From: Chesnutt, John <Chesnutt.John@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 28, 2021 10:38 AM
To: Alpern, Michael <Alpern.Michael@epa.gov>; Lyons, John <Lyons.John@epa.gov>; Giarmoleo, Julia <Giarmoleo.Julia@epa.gov>; Barton, Dana <Barton.Dana@epa.gov>; Gill, Sonam <Gill.Sonam@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: NOAA/EPA Joint Briefing with Sen. Feinstein Staff on Deep Ocean DDT Contamination off the Southern California Coast

Mike, For response 1, I edited the last sentence of first paragraph to make it more accurate.

John

From: Alpern, Michael <Alpern.Michael@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 28, 2021 9:46 AM
To: Giarmoleo, Julia <Giarmoleo.Julia@epa.gov>
Cc: Lyons, John <Lyons.John@epa.gov>; Chesnutt, John <Chesnutt.John@epa.gov>; Gill, Sonam <Gill.Sonam@epa.gov>; Barton, Dana <Barton.Dana@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: NOAA/EPA Joint Briefing with Sen. Feinstein Staff on Deep Ocean DDT Contamination off the Southern California Coast

Hi all. This is looking good, but I think that Response 1 needs a bit more to ensure that Alexis understands what PV Shelf is and how it's different from broader California Bight contamination. Superfund friends please see my edits made into Response 1, below.

Mike

Sent from my iPhone

On May 27, 2021, at 6:07 PM, Giarmoleo, Julia <Giarmoleo.Julia@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi!

I took a stab at some edits. Below for your review:

1. He said that EPA's current view is the dominant source of DDT to the CA bight was from the wastewater treatment plant on the PV shelf and not the deep-sea dumping that we were discussing. I'm wondering how EPA has established that view, especially since simultaneously, a theme of the briefing was how little we know about the effects of the offshore dumping. Was there a study or studies he was relying on? If there's more information, that would be really helpful.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

2. Provide an update of where things currently stand with the PV shelf clean up?

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

3. We are hearing from EPA they are not the lead agency and are in a support position to NOAA yet hearing the same thing from NOAA. Can you clarify EPA's position? And also let me know the list of agencies who are invited to the early June meeting on this topic that was mentioned in the briefing.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Thanks!

Julia

From: Lyons, John <Lyons.John@epa.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2021 4:53 PM

To: Alpern, Michael <Alpern.Michael@epa.gov>; Chesnutt, John <Chesnutt.John@epa.gov>; Gill, Sonam <Gill.Sonam@epa.gov>; Barton, Dana <Barton.Dana@epa.gov>
Cc: Giarmoleo, Julia <Giarmoleo.Julia@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: NOAA/EPA Joint Briefing with Sen. Feinstein Staff on Deep Ocean DDT Contamination off the Southern California Coast

Hi John and Mike

I am good with John C's draft. Per Mike's first comment, as the language is a direct quote, we could add a sentence clarifying that the JWCP is located in x city and that out fall pipes convey the treated waste water ocean diffusers located several miles offshore where the treated waste water enters the ocean. I defer to John C on the details and how to draft that.

On Mikes second point, the description of the IC program would need to be broader as it encompasses supporting State enforcement of the commercial catch ban (for certain species), supporting local health inspectors inspecting markets and restaurants to make sure certain fish are not being sold/served and supporting community based organization outreach and education to inform the public about not consuming certain fish and consuming limited amounts of other fish. Again, I defer to John C on condensing all of that for this response.

Thanks everyone,

John

John Lyons
Acting Deputy Director
Region 9 Superfund and Emergency Management Division
(415) 972-3889
(415) 265-0908(cell)

From: Alpern, Michael <Alpern.Michael@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2021 12:24 PM
To: Chesnutt, John <Chesnutt.John@epa.gov>; Gill, Sonam <Gill.Sonam@epa.gov>; Lyons, John <Lyons.John@epa.gov>; Barton, Dana <Barton.Dana@epa.gov>
Cc: Giarmoleo, Julia <Giarmoleo.Julia@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: NOAA/EPA Joint Briefing with Sen. Feinstein Staff on Deep Ocean DDT Contamination off the Southern California Coast

John, regarding your response #1 below, is "the Joint Water Pollution Control Plant outfall two miles offshore of Whites Point" discharging treated wastewater that originated at the Montrose DDT Plant? If so, for Alexis's edification I think it would be good to note that.

Also, given Alexis's question, we should add a sentence to response #1 clarifying that PV Shelf is an underwater segment of the Montrose Superfund Site, so while a wastewater treatment plant may have discharged contamination which settled onto the undersea PV Shelf, the plant could not be located on PV Shelf.

On the second response, Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Regards,

Mike Alpern - Director, Public Affairs
U.S. EPA Region 9 (Pacific Southwest)
(415) 947-4142 | alpern.michael@epa.gov
Follow us on Twitter: @EPAregion9
<image001.gif>

From: Chesnutt, John <Chesnutt.John@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2021 12:02 PM
To: Gill, Sonam <Gill.Sonam@epa.gov>; Lyons, John <Lyons.John@epa.gov>; Barton, Dana <Barton.Dana@epa.gov>
Cc: Giarmoleo, Julia <Giarmoleo.Julia@epa.gov>; Alpern, Michael <Alpern.Michael@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: NOAA/EPA Joint Briefing with Sen. Feinstein Staff on Deep Ocean DDT Contamination off the Southern California Coast

John L. and others, see my draft responses below in red for your review.

Sonam/Julia, also see my question below in green.

- John

From: Gill, Sonam <Gill.Sonam@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2021 9:08 AM
To: Lyons, John <Lyons.John@epa.gov>; Manzanilla, Enrique <Manzanilla.Enrique@epa.gov>; Chesnutt, John <Chesnutt.John@epa.gov>; Barton, Dana <Barton.Dana@epa.gov>
Cc: Giarmoleo, Julia <Giarmoleo.Julia@epa.gov>; Alpern, Michael <Alpern.Michael@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: NOAA/EPA Joint Briefing with Sen. Feinstein Staff on Deep Ocean DDT Contamination off the Southern California Coast

See some follow-up questions below from Sen. Feinstein's office. Including confusion about who the lead agency is.

Sonam

From: Segal, Alexis (Feinstein) <Alexis_Segal@feinstein.senate.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2021 8:53 AM
To: Gill, Sonam <Gill.Sonam@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: NOAA/EPA Joint Briefing with Sen. Feinstein Staff on Deep Ocean DDT Contamination off the Southern California Coast

Hi Sonam – Thank you very much again for helping to organize the briefing on Monday. It was really helpful and informative. I had a follow up question for John Lyons based on a statement he made during this week's briefing. He said that EPA's current view is the dominant source of DDT to the CA bite was from the wastewater treatment plant on the PV shelf and not the deep-sea dumping that we were discussing. I'm wondering how EPA has established that view, especially since simultaneously, a theme of the briefing was how little we know about the effects of the offshore dumping. Was there a study or studies he was relying on? If there's more information, that would be really helpful.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Secondly, if someone could provide an update of where things currently stand with the PV shelf clean up, I'd appreciate it.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Lastly, we are hearing from EPA they are not the lead agency and are in a support position to NOAA yet hearing the same thing from NOAA. Can you clarify EPA's position? And also let me know the list of agencies who are invited to the early June meeting on this topic that was mentioned in the briefing. Thanks! Happy to hop on phone if that would be helpful.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

From: Gill, Sonam <Gill.Sonam@epa.gov>

Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 4:52 PM

To: Lazarus, Jim (Feinstein) <Jim.Lazarus@feinstein.senate.gov>; Muller, Peter (Feinstein) <Peter.Muller@feinstein.senate.gov>; Segal, Alexis (Feinstein) <Alexis.Segal@feinstein.senate.gov>; Christian, Jeanette (Feinstein) <Jeanette.Christian@feinstein.senate.gov>; Ebner, Angela (Padilla) <Angela.Ebner@padilla.senate.gov>; Boehr, Craig (Padilla) <Craig.Boehr@padilla.senate.gov>; Swig, Sarah (Padilla) <Sarah.Swig@padilla.senate.gov>

Cc: Becky Lizama - NOAA Federal <becky.lizama@noaa.gov>

Subject: RE: NOAA/EPA Joint Briefing with Sen. Feinstein Staff on Deep Ocean DDT Contamination off the Southern California Coast

Good afternoon,

Attached is the presentation from our discussion earlier today. If you have any questions please let me know.

Sonam Gill
Congressional and Intergovernmental Liaison
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX
75 Hawthorne St.
San Francisco, CA 94105
gill.sonam@epa.gov
415.972.3380